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FLOOR DEBATE

May 13, 2003

LB 407  
LR 105-112

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion was not successful. I do raise the call. Mr. Clerk, do you have any items for the record, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: I do, Mr. President. Thank you. Study resolutions: LR 105, Senator Preister; LR 106, Senator Preister; Senator Vrtiska offers LR 107, LR 108, LR 109, LR 110, LR 111, and LR 112. All will be referred to the Executive Board. (Legislative Journal pages 1747-1751.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment to LB 407, Senator Raikes, AM1802. (Legislative Journal page 1699.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Raikes, you're recognized to open on AM1802 to LB 407. Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. It was mentioned several times in our last discussion that there were a number of ideas in Senator Erdman's amendment that deserve further consideration. I would certainly agree with that. It was also suggested that you probably will see them come back maybe one at a time. This is the first of those. This focuses on one specific item that Senator Erdman also addressed in his amendment; that is, funding of the Tobacco Prevention and Control Cash Fund. I am recommending to you in this amendment that the funding, which is \$3 million for each year of the upcoming biennium, be eliminated. Let me give you a little bit of history, if I may, on that program. In LB 1436, which was adopted in the regular session in 2000, there was appropriated from the tobacco settlement monies, off the top, seven...or, \$21 million total, \$7 million in each of three years, '99-2000, 2000-2001, and the last year for that was 2001-2002. The fund that that money went to, again, was titled the Tobacco Prevention and Control Cash Fund, to be used for a number of tobacco related public health programs, one of which was smoking cessation, but there are other programs in there as well. I would point out to you that in the current fiscal year there is no appropriation for that fund. There...I believe it